

ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS • MANAGING DIRECTOR LINDA DIGABRIELE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2016

ASOLO REP PRESENTS INSIDE ASOLO REP: GUYS AND DOLLS ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

WHAT:

Asolo Rep presents the first Inside Asolo Rep of the season on Wednesday, November 9 at 11am. This insightful panel discussion will feature **GUYS AND DOLLS** Director Josh Rhodes, Lighting Designer Paul Miller and Set Designer Lee Savage. The artists will share their creative processes and what it takes to bring this iconic masterpiece to life. The panel will be helmed by Asolo Rep dramaturg and casting associate Lauryn E. Sasso. There will be coffee and pastries in the lobby beginning at 10am, catered by Hotel Indigo.

WHO:

PAUL MILLER (Lighting Designer) Previously at Asolo Rep: *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner*; *Luck Be A Lady*; *Both Your Houses*; *The Matchmaker*; *Philadelphia, Here I Come!*; *The Grapes of Wrath*; *1776*; *The Heidi Chronicles*; *Yentl*. Broadway: *Amazing Grace*; *The Illusionists*; *Legally Blonde*; *Freshly Squeezed*; *Laughing Room Only*. Encores: *Irma La Douce*; *Of Thee I Sing*; *Music in the Air*; *Lost in the Stars*; *Where's Charley?* Regional Theatres: Stratford Shakespeare, Idaho Shakespeare, Chicago Shakespeare, American Conservatory Theater, Cleveland Play House, Great Lakes Theatre Co., Arizona Theatre Co., Pasadena Playhouse, and Goodspeed Musicals among others. International: Brazil, South Africa, China, Italy, U.K., Australia, Vienna. National Tours: *Elf*; *Shrek*; *Wizard of Oz*; *Legally Blonde*; *Sweeney Todd*; *Hairspray*; *The Producers*; *Nunsense*; *Scooby Doo*; *The Sound of Music*. Television: Live from Lincoln Center, Comedy Central. Lighting Director for the New Year's Eve Celebration in Times Square for the past 16 years.

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JOSH RHODES (Director/Choreographer) Asolo Rep: *Barnum*, *Working*, *Yentl*, *My Fair Lady*. On Broadway, Josh choreographed *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Outer Critics Circle, Astaire Award, and Drama Desk nominations and LA Critics Circle Award winner), *It Shoulda Been You*, *First Date*, and *Bright Star* (Outer Critics Circle, Astaire Award nominations). On the West End in London, he choreographed the Emmy-award winning production of *Sweeney Todd* starring Emma Thompson. Other stage credits include *Company* starring Neil Patrick Harris (Screenvision/PBS), the Emmy-winning production of *Sondheim's 80th Birthday Concert*(PBS), *Zorba* (Encores), *The Landing* (Vineyard Theater), *Broadway: Three Generations*(Kennedy Center), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Shakespeare Theater Company) and the Drama Desk Award-winning production of *Working* (Prospect Theater). Josh directed Ken Ludwig's *Baskerville* (Old Globe), *Spamalot* (5th Avenue) and *Celestina Warbeck and the Banshees* in Diagon Alley at The Wizarding World of Harry Potter. A proud graduate of the University of Michigan.

LEE SAVAGE (Scenic Designer) Past Asolo Rep credits include *West Side Story*, *Our Betters*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Inventing Van Gogh*, *Las Meninas*, and *The Innocents*. NYC: *Muscles in Our Toes*, *Sunset Baby*, and *Thinner Than Water* (Labyrinth); *Collapse* (Women's Project); *Rx*(Primary Stages); *All-American* (LCT3); *The Dream of the Burning Boy*, *Ordinary Days*(Roundabout); *Oohrah!* (Atlantic); *The Bereaved* (Partial Comfort); *punkplay* (Clubbed Thumb); *End Days* (EST). Regional: Alliance, Center Stage, Chautauqua, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Cleveland Play House, Dallas Theatre Center, Milwaukee Rep, Old Globe, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Trinity Rep, Two River, Westport Country Playhouse, Washington National Opera, Wilma Theater, and Yale Rep. Awards: Helen Hayes–*Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (nom), *Richard III* (nom), and Connecticut Critics Circle–*The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*. Member of Wingspace Theatrical Design. BFA–RISD (currently on faculty); MFA–Yale School of Drama (currently on faculty).

WHEN:

Wednesday, November 9
Refreshments: 10am
Panel Discussion: 11am

WHERE:

FSU Center for the Performing Arts
Cook Theatre
5555 N. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34243

HOW:

Panel discussion tickets are just \$5 for the general public and are free for all donors and Asolo Rep Guild members. To reserve your tickets, call the Asolo Rep Box Office at 941.351.8000 or visit www.asolorep.org.

Inside Asolo Rep is sponsored by Hotel Indigo and the Observer.

ABOUT GUYS AND DOLLS

GUYS AND DOLLS **A MUSICAL FABLE OF BROADWAY**

November 15–January 1

Based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyon

Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser

Book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows

Choreographed and Directed by Josh Rhodes

A co-production with The Old Globe

When it comes to wit, style, and sheer exuberant joy, **GUYS AND DOLLS** is the odds-on favorite as the best musical comedy of all time. Set under the bright lights of Broadway and bustling with gamblers, gangsters, and sassy showgirls, **GUYS AND DOLLS** features one of the greatest scores ever written by the legendary Frank Loesser, masterfully witty book and lyrics by Joe Swerling and comedy legend Abe Burrows, and those glorious Damon Runyon characters who have become classics in the world of musical theatre. The plot involves the unlikeliest of romantic pairings: a high-rolling gambler and a save-your-soul missionary, a showgirl dreaming of the straight-and-narrow and a crap game manager who is anything but. Place your bet on love conquering all in this hilarious classic that defined Broadway's Golden Age.

ABOUT ASOLO REP

Now in its 58th season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in America and one of the largest in the Southeastern United States. One of the few select theatres in the nation that performs in true rotating repertory, Asolo Rep's highly skilled acting company and extensive craftsmanship bring to life this unique performance method that gives audiences the opportunity to see multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep presents up to 15 productions each season including contemporary and classic works and provocative musical theatre experiences. A theatre district in and of itself, Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, furthering its collaboration with the best theatre artists working in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards and Managing Director Linda DiGabriele, Asolo Rep's ambitious theatrical offerings and ground-breaking education and outreach programming engage audiences and ensure its lasting legacy for future generations.

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